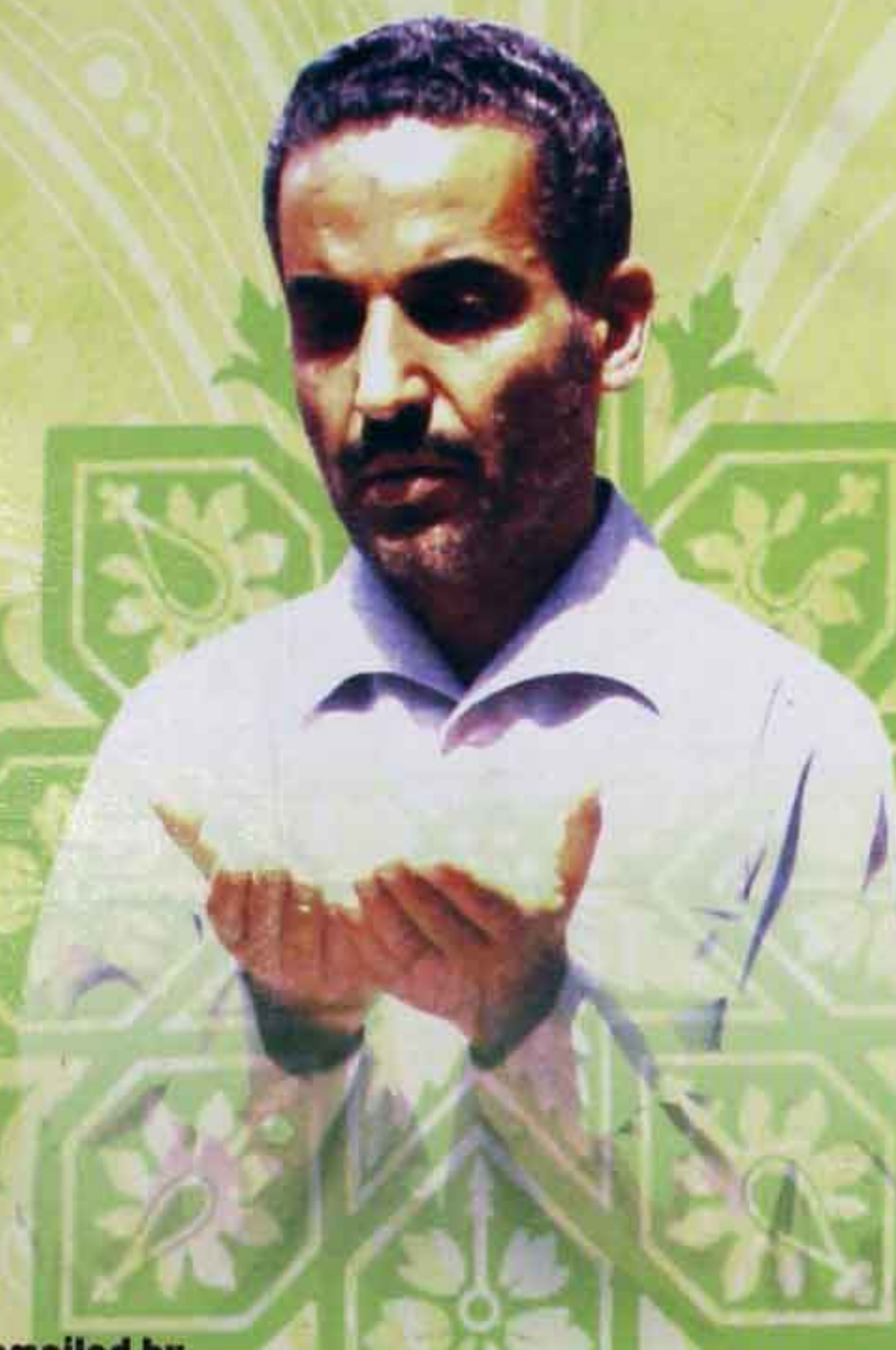
Islam in practice

Martyr mohd ali Rajai

Role Models 19

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ISLAM IN PRACTICE

President Raja'ei from Birth to Martyrdom

Compiled by: Sayed Zaheer Abbas Jafari

Edited by: Dr. Mir Mohammad Ibrahiem

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

One of various blessings of the Islamic revolution of Iran is the emergence of such versatile personalities who are fully capable to generate awareness and infuse a new life in any nation. These shining stars are well aware of the lofty Islamic thoughts on the one hand and very advanced in practically following the tenets of shariah on the other. Moreover, these luminaries can not be deceived by the plots and ill designs of enemies as they believe in constant resistance against infidels. Islamic Ummah throughout its history has seldom found such figures as it did today despite a long gap of restlessness. The popularity of such ideologues goes beyond their national and territorial boundaries. As they are brought-up under the shade of pure Islamic thought, every Muslim irrespective of his race and language holds them in high esteem as his ideals. The way to identify these luminous figures is to study their exemplary characteristics and extraordinary events that took place in their lives. These events obviously reflect their sublime thought, religious vision and social role. We feel honoured to present some biographies of such outstanding Islamic scholars who significantly contributed to the success of Islamic Revolution. We hope that the Muslims who view these great personalities as their "Ideals" and "Role Models" will always strive for the supremacy of Islamic thought and religious values in the Islamic lands.

We are greatly indebted to those friends who cooperated in the publication of this collection particularly to Sayed Zaheer Abbas Jafari who translated and complied the articles in English.

Nashre Shahid

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Nashre Shahid

Foreword

Allah the Merciful and Compassionate has blessed the mankind with his last holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammad and his twelve immaculate successors (Peace be upon them all) to follow and choose the right path of life on the basis of their sacred conduct, so that the man can achieve salvation both in present world and hereafter. The more we go far from these revered and infallible personalities the more we indulge in miseries, discords, mistakes, sins and above all impatience in dealing with the problems of mortal worldly life. That is; embracing piety and putting the genuine Islam into practice not only guarantees success in hereafter but makes the man feel like being in paradise just in present world.

In order to walk the path leading to that ultimate success, first of all we should get acquainted with the life, conduct and the teachings of holy Prophet and his progeny (Peace be upon them all), for; the knowledge is base for every practice. No deed is acceptable without knowledge as well as no knowledge is fruitful without practice.

Moreover, as knowing Islam and its infallible leaders character and conduct is vital for living a life completely accorded with divine rules applying which is a sign of being faithful in real, the same way having a glimpse over the life style of Prophet's

households true followers will prove very beneficial and helping in walking the path of Allah the Almighty. In fact they i.e. the true followers of holy Prophet's progeny are the best role models for everyone in the period of *'Major Occultation'* because; presently no one is directly in touch with an Infallible Imam or a center of guidance. You know the ulama and qualified grand religious authorities, mentioned by the Master of Time (May Allah hasten his appearance) himself as Hujjat and guides for Ummah, before starting his major occultation, are the *'Role Models'* in present era in real sense. Then their pupils and followers, who through their appropriate actions and best deeds have presented themselves as the live examples of genuine Islam in practice, are the candles to help us finding the path, shown by holy Prophet's progeny (Peace be upon them all).

President Mohammad Ali Raja'ei, the ex-premier and ex-president of the Islamic Republic of Iran who was martyred by blind hearted hypocrite terrorists just less than a month after he took the charge of presidency, is one of them. He was born in Qazvin, lost his father in childhood and was brought up by his mother. That time no one could ever think that someday he would take the charge of country's numerous sensitive posts including premiership and presidency. That happened but no post and office could change his thoughts, attitudes, characteristics,

bravery, humbleness, piety, sincerity, humanity, contentment and etc. For him; it didn't differ that he was a simple teacher or minister of education of a country. Thus he always was the same Mohammad Ali Raja'ei son of Abd al-Samad who used to be a wonderer and pot seller in his youth. A brief look over his life journey must be necessary to become more acquainted with him:

1. 1312 AH[1]: Born in Qazvin.
2. 1316 AH: Gave away his father.
3. 1327 AH: Migrated to Tehran.
4. 1328 AH: Joined the air force.
5. 1335 AH: Took admission in a degree college.
6. 1338 AH: Completed his graduation in mathematics and selected as lecturer in the same subject.
7. 1340 AH: Joined 'Freedom Movement'.
8. 1342 AH: Arrested in Qazvin due to political activities and imprisoned for 50 days.
9. 1350 AH: Went abroad, first to France, then to Turkey and after that to Syria in order to pave ground to send Iranian volunteer combatants to Palestine.

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[1] - AH means after the hijrah of holy Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (May Peace of Allah be upon him and his descendants). Dates and years are mentioned according to Iranian solar hijri calendar according to which year starts on March 20 or 21, nationally celebrated with most of fervor and enthusiasm as 'Eid-e-Norouz'. Iranian hijri calendar's current year is 1390 accorded with 2011-12.

10. 1354 AH: Arrested and imprisoned for 4 years.
11. 1357 AH: Released along with other political prisoners and played vital role in organizing protest rallies against Shah's regime.
12. 1358 AH: Took the charge of ministry of education in Engineer Bazergan's cabinet.
13. 1359 AH: Elected as Tehranis representative in Islamic Consultative Assembly. The house members with majority votes chose him as the first ever premier of the Islamic Republic of Iran on August 9, 1980 (Mordad 18, 1359 AH).
14. 1360 AH: Appointed as president of the Islamic Republic of Iran by Imam Khomeini (RA) on Mordad 11 (August 2, 1981) after winning elections held after Bani Sadr's removal.
15. 1360 AH: Martyred along with his premier Mohammad Jawad Bahonar on Shahrivar 8 (August 30, 1981) in a blast in premier's office.

President Mohammad Ali Raja'ei during his entire life kept in mind only one thing and that was Islam. His life is full of uncountable memorable incidents, of those everyone is containing a message to mankind as well as a lesson to all those who claim to be the devotees

and followers of Imam Ali (Peace be upon him). We haven't thrown light upon every single event (that wants a very lengthy book to be compiled) and just tried to collect a few number of his life's important incidents and stories to show that how he put Islamic rules into action in every stage of life and became a 'role model' for everyone who wants to live a life completely dominated by Islam and Islamic rules.

Now the 'Islam in Practice' is in your hands. For this, I sincerely thank all my friends who assisted me in preparing and completing this work specially Dr. Mir Mohammad Ibrahim, Sheikh Ghulam Husain Mattoo and Mr. Sajjad Haider whose step by step co-operation is never forgettable to me. I think the book will be highly beneficial for all kind of dear readers, from a laborer to an administrator and minister, for everyone whose breaths are endowed for Islam in general and humanity in particular.

Sayed Zaheer Abbas Jafari

It is generally known that Martyr Raja'ei was a religious and a social activist. Indeed he was a teacher with high moral and presented an exemplary model of behavior and character.

Imam Khomeini

Martyr Raja'ei was a noble, virtuous and abstemious person who indeed was acquainted well aware of his self. Some people are ignorant of their selves, with the result their deficiencies and shortcomings remain as it is. But Martyr Raja'ei was fully attentive towards himself and always tried to fulfill his deficiencies and shortcomings. In short, we can say he was a purified, God loving, sincere, abstemious and unique personality of his time.[1]

(Supreme Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei)

[1] Secret of Eternity, Page-17

Chapter 1

CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH

A Memory of the Past!

Islam is a religion of practice, examination and test. That is why a Muslim's faith proves true and real only after his success in step to step tests by Almighty Allah who says in the holy Quran:

أحسب الناس أن يتركوا أن يقولوا آمنا و هم لا يفتنون

Do the people suppose that they will be let off because they say," We have faith," and they will not be tested[1]?

إنا خلقنا الإنسان من نطفة أمشاج نبتليه فجعلناه سميعا بصيرا

Indeed we created man from the drop of a mixed fluid so that We may test him. So we made him endowed with hearing and sight[2].

Raja'ei, an orphan, living in a big city alone in young age and working hard to earn livelihood managed to save and secure both his faith and religious thoughts from being affected by the poisonous and anti-religious atmosphere and thus passed all the tough tests successfully.

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-29, Verse-2
[2] Holy Quran, Surah- 67, Verse-2

و لنبلونكم بشيء من الخوف و الجوع و نقص من الاموال و الانفس و الثمرات و بشر الصابرين

We will surely test you with a measure of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth, lives, and fruits; and give good news to the patient[1].

In the same way many times God's tests are to guide people and make them take admonition, as such the holy verse says:

و لقد اخذنا آل فرعون بالسنين و نقص من الثمرات لعلهم يذكرون

Certainly We afflicted Pharaoh's clan with droughts and loss of produce, so that they may take admonition[2].

Martyr Mohammad Ali Raja'ei, ex-president of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with several tests in his childhood and youth and passed all of them successfully. A friend of him and a well known writer Hasan Askari Rad illustrates his views about him as under:

As historical evidence those who have achieved the highest stages of perfection, name and fame in a field or reach the peak of fame are mostly supported and backed by their kind parents or a compassionate

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-155

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-7, Verse-130

No Difference at All

Although appreciating others for their hard work and services is good, yet Martyr Raja'ei believed that listening to admiration from others may change the sincere work and service of a man into ostentation that may result in one's deterioration. When someone becomes habitual of listening to his appreciation and admiration from others, he will endow all of his deeds for Satan, instead of God, and this way he will prepare hell for himself.

One of his friends[1] says:

Once we were sitting in the school office at the time of break. Meanwhile the guardian of a student entered into the school searching for Mr. Raja'ei. "Who is Mr. Raja'ei amongst you? I have something to say to him".

---

[1] Hasan Askari Rad

"I am Raja'ei, please honor me to listen you", Martyr Raja'ei replied.

He came forward and wanted to kiss Raja'ei's hand but he didn't let him to do so, instead he kissed his forehead, asking, "Why are you embarrassing us and putting yourself in trouble"?

"I am thankful to you, you have totally changed my son, not only him but the whole atmosphere of my family has got changed by your hard work and guidance", he said. "It seems that Quran and Islam have returned to our home."

"Thank you very much, you have admired me to the extent I am feeling proud of myself. I fear that this kind of love and admiration may drag me to hell", Raja'ei said.

He tried to remain far away from such things and selected his friends according to the same standard. When he became Prime Minister once he said to one of his colleagues, "If you want to serve me or bestow to me something, then instead of appreciating and applauding please keep me reminding that I am the same Mohammad Ali Raja'ei, son of Abd al-Samad, who earlier used to

wander in alleys, selling out the pots. Whenever you realize that I have forgotten myself, please remind me about my past. Be sure that these bitter but true words shall prove sweet and useful for me".[1]

وَ ذَكِّرْ فَإِنَّ الذِّكْرَىٰ تَنفَعُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

And admonish, for admonition indeed benefits the faithful.[2]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-87
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-51, Verse-55

This is the Neighbor in Real Sense

Muneera Sadat Mirzai[1] says:

It is during the days of his Premiership, we happened to be the neighbors to Martyr Raja'ei. In the meanwhile we were busy in some repairs of our house. One fine morning, when we were carrying the debris of construction material to the garbage storage in the alley, we saw Mr. Raja'ei carrying breads to his house. Nearing to us, he said Salam as usual and asked if he could help us.

My husband thanked him saying, "There is no such a need, please". But he swiftly dropped the breads at his home and immediately returned back. He turned up his sleeves and started helping us. We persuaded him hard not to do so, but he didn't agree

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[1] A neighbor of Martyr Raja'ei

and said, "After all it is what a neighbor in real sense means".[1]

Holy Prophet (PBUH) says:

Neighbor is as sacred for a man as his mother.[2]

He who believes in Allah and dooms day never teases his neighbor.[3]

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[1]Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-94

[2] Makarim Akhlaq, Volume-1, Page-274

[3] Kafi, Volume-2, Page-667

'Don't Tell Him Anything'

One night our dear uncle, Martyr Raja'ei stayed at our home. Next morning when he came out to leave for his office, a young man who was (an opponent to the Islamic Revolution, Imam Khomeini (RA) and the Islamic Republic) came forward and insulted him. I got furious but he asked me to be calm and not to say anything to him.

وَ الَّذِينَ صَبَرُوا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ رَبِّهِمْ وَ أَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَ أَنْفَقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ سِرًّا وَ عَلَانِيَةً وَ يَدْرَءُونَ بِالْحَسَنَةِ السَّيِّئَةَ أُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ عُقْبَى الدَّارِ

Those who are patient for the sake of their Lord's pleasure, maintain the prayer, and spend out of what We have provided them, secretly and openly, and repel evil [conduct] with good. For such will be [the reward of the] ultimate abode.[1]

أُولَٰئِكَ يُؤْتَوْنَ أَجْرَهُمْ مَرَّتَيْنِ بِمَا صَبَرُوا وَ يَدْرَءُونَ بِالْحَسَنَةِ السَّيِّئَةَ وَ مِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ

Those will be given their reward two times for their patience. They repel evil [conduct] with good, and spend out of what We have provided them.

---

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-22

ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَ تَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَ تَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ

While being one of those who have faith and who enjoin one another to patience, and enjoin one another to compassion.[1]

وَ الْعَصْرِ

إِنَّ الْإِنسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ. إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَ عَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَ تَوَاصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَ تَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ

By Time!

Indeed man is in loss, except those who have faith and do righteous deeds, and enjoin one another [to follow] the truth, and enjoin one another to patience.[2]

After the martyrdom of Mohammad Ali Raja'ei, this Youngman when came to his house and witnessed his simple life with his own eyes, got embarrassed, stroke his head against the wall and started weeping. After that he asked addressing me, "What were the words of Martyr Raja'ei when I insulted him on that particular day". I replied that he asked me not to say anything to you and asked me to go home quietly. Listening to this he got more upset and said, "I wish you would have slapped me

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-90, Verse-17

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-103, Verse-3

hard that day so that I may not have cut a sorry figure today".[1]

[1] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaeed Raja'ei)*, Page-378

Chapter 5

Some Narrations of President Raja'ei

Only the Name of God

وَ اذْكُرِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ وَ تَبَتَّلْ إِلَيْهِ تَبْتِيلًا

So celebrate the Name of your Lord and dedicate yourself to Him with total dedication.[1]

وَ اذْكُرِ اسْمَ رَبِّكَ بُكْرَةً وَ أَصِيلًا

And celebrate the Name of your Lord morning and evening.[2]

A portrait bearing the name of "Allah" was affixed over the wall behind the chair of Prime Minister in his office, which indicated that he bore nothing except Allah in his mind.

This portrait which bears only the name of Allah in it has been here since I took over the charge of Premiership. Sitting behind this simple desk, I have tried to solve the problems of the society.

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-73, Verse-8
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-76, Verse-25

teacher. The educationists are of opinion that besides home and the school, the most important factor responsible for right mental perfection of a youth is the 'good society'.

Keeping these points in view, when we have a glimpse over the life of Martyr Raja'ei we observe the fact that neither he could avail the opportunity of the guardianship of his father, nor he could manage for any schooling, nor could benefit from any good society. At the age of 4, (when a child is in need of love and care of his father), he lost his father. Due to poverty, he got his primary education by the help of his mother in Qazvin and then, despite being of tender age, moved to Tehran to earn livelihood.

It is really surprising how he managed to work in days and study during nights in a big city like Tehran, while the country was facing turmoil and the situation of immorality.

While going through his life history we see that he always tried to have company with good people. For this reason he always attended the discourses of Ayatollah Taliqani on ethics and tried to mould

Sometimes I have worked till 10 or 12 O'clock during the night until my eyes could support me.

Some friends objected me and argued that these simple chairs and tables were not befitting for the Prime Minister's office but I never opted for any splendid furniture that may dazzle the people's eyes. The pink jacket you see hanging on the wall is my favorite dress which I have been wearing for many years.

I was an enthusiastic combatant, who is always ready for martyrdom. School, prison, Premiership and Presidency are all equal to me. I have promised to God to serve people just being His servant. That is why there is only Allah's name in my room and I have cherished my life with this only.[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-133

Self-Respect and Independence

الَّذِينَ يَتَّخِذُونَ الْكَافِرِينَ أَوْلِيَاءَ مِن دُونِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَيَبْتَغُونَ عِندَهُمُ الْعِزَّةَ فَإِنَّ الْعِزَّةَ لِلَّهِ جَمِيعًا

Those who take the faithless for allies instead of the faithful, do they seek honour with them? If so, indeed all honour belongs to Allah.[1]

وَلَا يَحْزُنكَ قَوْلُهُمْ إِنَّ الْعِزَّةَ لِلَّهِ جَمِيعًا

هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

Do not grieve at their remarks; indeed all honor belongs to Allah; He is the All-hearing, the All-knowing.[2]

The Story revealed through a picture taken while he was having a meeting with then UN Secretary General:-

The world is a place of admonishment and this picture bears out its proof. The sweet and bitter events of my life are not worthy; from the age of orphanage to youth, laboring in days and studying in

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-4, Verse-139

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-10, Verse-65

nights, resistance against the enemy, imprisonment, tortures, revolution, freedom, premiership and now meeting the UN Secretary General, Kort Walahayem at New York city of the United States of America are the episodes that contains much more to tell you.

That was the day when I went there to defend my oppressed nation. At that International Conference I expressed the voice of my oppressed nation and vehemently lashed out the Iraqi invasion that was wagged over Iran with the support of global imperialism.

The picture was taken when I met the UN Secretary General after my speech. It was a great surprise for an experienced politician like him that an oppressed man of East is defending his nation against the world's imperialist powers in the name of God.[1]

مَنْ كَانَ يُرِيدُ الْعِزَّةَ فَلِلَّهِ الْعِزَّةُ جَمِيعًا إِلَيْهِ يَصْعَدُ الْكَلِمُ الطَّيِّبُ وَ الْعَمَلُ الصَّالِحُ يَرْفَعُهُ وَ الَّذِينَ يَمْكُرُونَ السَّيِّئَاتِ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ وَ مَكْرُ أُولَئِكَ هُوَ يَبُورُ

Whoever seeks honour should know that honour entirely belongs to Allah. To Him ascends the good word, and He elevates

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-134

righteous conduct; as for those who devise evil schemes, there is a severe punishment for them, and their plotting shall come to naught.[1]

يَقُولُونَ لَئِنْ رَجَعْنَا إِلَى الْمَدِينَةِ لَيُخْرِجَنَّ الْأَعَزُّ مِنْهَا الْأَذَلَّ وَ لِلَّهِ الْعِزَّةُ وَ لِرَسُولِهِ وَ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَ لَكِنَّ الْمُنَافِقِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

They say," When we return to the city, the mighty will surely expel the abased from it." Yet all might belongs to Allah and His Apostle, and the faithful, but the hypocrites do not know.[2]

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-35, Verse-10
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-63, Verse-8

Self Contentment

Surely you must have heard about my coat that I have been wearing ever since I was a teacher. I always believed in contentment but I used to keep myself neat and clean. One may hardly believe that for years I have been living with the same simplicity. Once I was on a visit to Bandar Abbas, some colleagues were also accompanying me. As usual, I was wearing the same coat which I forgot on the seat while deboarding the mini bus. Thinking that it belonged to one of my colleagues, the driver called someone, "Dear Brother! You have forgotten your coat, how do you escort the Prime Minister with this worn out coat?" He also laughed and said, "This is Prime Minister's coat, not mine".

The driver was taken aback and spontaneously said, "My God"!

The future generations may reproach me for my extreme contentment but my message to them rather to all people is that majority of the people in Islamic Republic are poor therefore officials should live at least like them so that the people are in a position to attain prosperity.[1]

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good [to others] just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption.[2]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-136
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-28, Verse-77

An Exemplary House

You may hardly believe, if I reveal the condition of my house. As for as the next generations are concerned; they may think it a myth and not a fact. Who can believe that a man who is neither a Prophet nor an Imam, enjoying power also Shariah and norms allow him to live a standard life in accordance to his status and position but he doesn't? But this is a fact.

Anyway I had a simple house in both periods; when I was teacher as well as when I became the President of the Islamic Republic. If you happen to see the old bricks of the outer wall of the President's house that now even couldn't resist against the wind, or you happen to see its basement which seems to be a prison, you would be taken aback.

If the poet Khaqani had been around, he would have wrote a poem about this historical house, which is a lesson for whole mankind and a message for next generations to come.[1]

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good [to others] just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption.[2]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-134

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-28, Verse-77

Visiting the People

When the mini bus, we were traveling in, stopped before a huge crowd, I said to myself, "All these people who are praying for you, love Islam and your true services". I saw a roaring sea of heads to the extent of my sight and their meaningful observations were to say, 'O God! Is he our Prime Minister who has come in an ordinary mini bus to visit us? He is very simple'.

That time I realized how much relaxed common people would feel if a Governor, Prime Minister or a President lived a life as simple as theirs. Seeing their rulers' simplicity they will get ready even to sacrifice their lives for the nation and the country.[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-142

إنّ الذين آمنوا و عملوا الصّالحات سيجعل لهم الرّحمن ودًا

Indeed those who have faith and do righteous deeds the All-beneficent will endear them [to His creation].[1]

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-19, Verse-96

himself in accordance to the advices of this teacher of value education.[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-19

Main Problem

That day our visit to Khurasan had two purposes; performing the Ziarah of Imam Reza (Peace be upon him) and visiting people and provincial officials. Delivering a speech to the people at Holy Shrine's courtyard, I said, we can confront the enemy even America with two things; resistance and contentment. After that I moved to guest house of the Holy Shrine to join the luncheon arranged for us. While observing the rich feast on the table I said to myself, "Raja'ei! What have they done? Why all this lavish arrangement? Don't stay mum here otherwise you are responsible for this all.

الذین یُبَلِّغُونَ رِسالاتِ اللهِ وَ یَخْشَوْنَهُ وَ لا یَخْشَوْنَ أحدا إلا الله وَ كفى بِاللهِ حَسیبا

Such as deliver the messages of Allah and fear Him, and fear no one except Allah, and Allah suffices as reckoner.[1]

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-33, Verse-39

A society cannot be governed simply by oaths, *Salawat* and hollow slogans. If you are really a brave man and consider yourself a responsible person then speak out (the truth), as all the claimants are here who are the main trouble creators in real sense and there is no fault on the part of people. These are the people who oppress and deceive others. "The Government with infidelity can exist (for some time), but with oppression, it hardly has any existence".

With the grace of Allah, I addressed them saying, "Tell me for the sake of Imam Reza (Peace be upon him), is this all permissible for a government? Are we superior to those of the people?"

يا أيّها النّاسُ إنّا خلقناكمْ منْ ذكرٍ وَ أنثى وَ جعلناكمْ شعُوبا وَ قبائلَ لِتعارَفوا إنّ أكرَمكمْ عِندَ اللهِ أتقاكمْ إنّ اللهَ عليمٌ خبيرٌ

O mankind! Indeed We created you from a male and a female, and made you nations and tribes that you may identify yourselves with one another. Indeed the noblest of you in the sight of Allah is the most God wary among you. Indeed Allah is all-knowing, all-aware.[1]

Let us not be like a preacher who doesn't practice what he preaches. All this is extravagance

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-49, Verse-13

and after all what is the purpose of all this? They hardly thought about what I said. Perhaps many of them took it ill, but they had to lift all the surplus food and I thanked God that I was successful in this trial too.

يا أيها الذين آمنوا لِمَ تقولون ما لا تفعلون

(O you who have faith! Why do you say what you do not do? [1])

كَبُرَ مقتا عند الله أن تقولوا ما لا تفعلون

(It is greatly outrageous to Allah that you should say what you do not do.[2])

أ تأمرون الناس بالبرّ و تنسون أنفسكم و أنتم تتلون الكتاب أ فلا تعقلون

(Will you bid others to piety and forget yourselves, while you recite the Book? Do you not apply reason? [3])

Why so much prodigality?"

يا بني آدم خذوا زينتكم عند كلّ مسجدٍ و كلوا و اشربوا و لا تسرفوا إنّه لا يحبُّ المسرفين

O Children of Adam! Put on your adornment on every occasion of prayer, and eat and drink, but do not waste; indeed He does not like the wasteful.[4]

إنّ الذين قالوا ربّنا الله ثمّ استقاموا فلا خوفٌ عليهم و لا هم يحزنون

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-61, Verse-2
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-61, Verse-3
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-44
[4] Holy Quran, Surah-7, Verse-31

Indeed those who say," Our Lord is Allah," and then remain steadfast, they will have no fear, nor will they grieve.[1]

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-42, Verse-13

Sources

1) Holy Quran

2) Holy Quran, Ali Quli Qara'i translation, second edition.

3) *Nahj Al-Balagha*

4) *Makarim Al-Akhlaq*

5) *Al-Kafi*

6) *Tafseer Tabri*

7) Aya'at Al-Ahkam

8) Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*

9) Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaheed Raja'ei)*

10) Abdullah Sadeqi's speech at 'Series of Academic Meetings on Islamic Contexts' at Qom Islamic Seminary

11) *Behar Al-Anwar*

12) *Jame Al-Akhbar*

Home, a little world

A friend of him says during his prime ministry Martyr Rajai stayed at office till midnights and worked like a busy bee to solve the problems of the country. Once it was near 10 pm, time to leave for home. Suddenly Mr. Rajai got absent! I started looking after him everywhere he could be but in vain, finally I found him near the wash basin where he was combing and straightening his dress. I laughed and became surprised if it was time to self-maintenance!

Seeing me in mirror he turned back and saying, "Maybe you are wondering". I said, "Yes".

"Just now neither you are going to meet with anybody nor anyone would see us in the car then why all this"?

He smiled and said, "Friend! Family is also a part of the society but rather a little society, like we take bath and dress well to come out to work in the morning the same way we should go back to home well dressed and maintained.

If the problems are dominant over the days and nights of our life, our families have no mistake to make us meet them exhausted and uncombed.

Brother! We should always care about their rights and that is just"

With His Mother

وَ إِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَاقَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ لَا تَعْبُدُونَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ وَ بِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَ الْيَتَامَى وَ الْمَسَاكِينِ وَ قُولُوا لِلنَّاسِ حُسْنًا وَ أَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَ آتُوا الزَّكَاةَ ثُمَّ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِنْكُمْ وَ أَنْتُمْ مُعْرِضُونَ

And when We took a pledge from the Children of Israel:" Worship no one but Allah, do good to parents, relatives, orphans, and the needy, and speak kindly to people, and maintain the prayer, and give the zakat," you turned away, except a few of you, and you were disregardful[1].

وَ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَ لَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَ بِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَ بِذِي الْقُرْبَى وَ الْيَتَامَى وَ الْمَسَاكِينِ وَ الْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَ الْجَارِ الْجُنُبِ وَ الصَّاحِبِ بِالْجَنْبِ وَ ابْنِ السَّبِيلِ وَ مَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ مَنْ كَانَ مُخْتَالًا فَخُورًا

Worship Allah and do not ascribe any partners to Him, and be good to parents, the relatives, the orphans, the needy, the near neighbour and the distant neighbour, the companion at your side, the traveler, and your slaves. Indeed Allah does not like anyone who is a swaggering braggart[2].

قُلْ تَعَالَوْا أَتْلُ مَا حَرَّمَ رَبُّكُمْ عَلَيْكُمْ أَلَّا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَ بِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَ لَا تَقْتُلُوا أَوْلَادَكُمْ مِنْ إِمْلَاقٍ نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكُمْ وَ إِيَّاهُمْ وَ لَا تَقْرَبُوا الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَ مَا بَطَنَ وَ لَا تَقْتُلُوا النَّفْسَ الَّتِي حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ إِلَّا بِالْحَقِّ ذَلِكُمْ وَصَّاكُمْ بِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-83
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-36

Say," Come, I will recount what your Lord has forbidden you from. That you shall not ascribe any partners to Him, and you shall be good to the parents, you shall not kill your children due to penury We will provide for you and for them you shall not approach indecencies, the outward among them and the inward ones, and you shall not kill a soul] whose life [Allah has made inviolable, except with due cause. This is what He has enjoined upon you so that you may apply reason[1].

وَ قَضَى رَبُّكَ الا تَعْبُدُوا إلا إيَّاهُ وَ بِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إحْسَانًا إمَّا يَبْلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أحَدُهُمَا أوْ كِلاهُمَا فَلا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا
أُفٍّ وَ لا تَنْهَرْهُمَا وَ قُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلاً كَرِيمًا

Your Lord has decreed that you shall not worship anyone except Him, and He has enjoined kindness to parents. Should they reach old age at your side one of them or both do not say to them," Fie!" And do not chide them, but speak to them noble words[2].

Raja'ei's wife Ateqa Siddiqi notes:

Giving away his father in childhood, Martyr Raja'ei was brought up by his sweet mother and guardian and teacher-like elder brother. The more he grew up the more he missed his father but soon realized that his mother and brother didn't let him feel orphan. That's why he always valued his mother and brother's care for him and paid to them great respect and reverence.

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-6, Verse-151
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-17, Verse-23

While returning home, first of all he used to go to his mother, say her Salam and kiss her with a special kind of respect. Sometimes he used to put his head in her lap like a child and said, ''A Man always thinks himself a child before his mother even though he is old''.[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity (Ramz Jawedangi), Page-21

Home-A Little World

يا أيُّها النَّاسُ اتَّقوا ربَّكُمُ الذي خلقكُم من نفسٍ واحدةٍ و خلقَ منها زوجها و بثَّ منهُما رجالاً كثيراً و
نِساءً و اتَّقوا اللهَ الذي تَساءلونَ بهِ و الأرحامَ إنَّ اللهَ كانَ عليكُم رقيباً

O mankind! Be wary of your Lord who created you from a single soul, and created its mate from it, and, from the two of them, scattered numerous men and women. Be wary of Allah, in whose Name you adjure one another, and the wombs. Indeed Allah is watchful over you[1].

Hasan Askari Rad says:

During his premiership, Martyr Raja'ei stayed at office till midnights and worked like a busy bee to solve the problems of the Country. Once it was about 10 pm, the time to leave for home, suddenly while looking around I couldn't find him! I searched about him at all expected places, but couldn't find him. Finally I found him near wash basin combing and redressing. It made me smile and put me under

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-4, Verse-19

surprise as well if it was the time for self-maintenance!

Seeing me in the mirror he turned back and said, "May be you are surprised". I said, "Yes".

"Right now neither you are going to meet anybody nor anyone would see us in the car then why all this"?

He smiled and said, "Friend! Family is also a part of society rather itself a little society. As we take a bath and dress up well while coming out to work every morning, the same way we should return home well dressed and maintained.

If we are facing tough days, it is not fault on the part of our families that we may meet them in a state of distress and depression.

Yes Brother! We should always care about their rights and that is just".[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-23

Generosity

One of his friends[1] says, before the revolution, once we were at Iran Square and he wanted to go to Zaleh Square to buy some fruits. I asked, 'why are you going to purchase fruit from such a place which is far away from here'? He said, "A friend of mine has a shop there". I accompanied him to the shop. After greetings, I saw him putting the rotten and damaged fruits into his bag. It put me under utter surprise. I assisted him by picking up some good and fresh fruits and put them into his bag, but he replaced them with the same rotten ones. He did all this in such a way that his friend didn't become attentive. Then he paid for it and left the place. In the way I asked him about the matter, but he kept silent and did not say anything. When I insisted about it, he said, "He had two sons; one was

[1] Ghulam Reza Fazeli, his barber

martyred and other is imprisoned, so I and some of my friends once in a week come to buy some fruits from his shop in a bid to help and console him to some extent''.[1]

إِنْ تُبْدُوا الصَّدَقَاتِ فَنِعِمَّا هِيَ وَ إِنْ تُخْفُوهَا وَ تُؤْتُوهَا الْفُقَرَاءَ فَهُوَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ وَ يُكَفِّرُ عَنْكُمْ مِنْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَ اللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ

If you disclose your charities, that is well, but if you hide them and give them to the poor, that is better for you, and it will atone for some of your misdeeds, and Allah is well aware of what you do[2].

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ بِاللَّيْلِ وَ النَّهَارِ سِرًّا وَ عَلَانِيَةً فَلَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَ لَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَ لَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

Those who give their wealth by night and day, secretly and openly, they shall have their reward near their Lord, and they will have no fear, nor will they grieve[3].

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-25
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-271
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-274

Humanity

قالت الاعراب آمنا قل لم تؤمنوا و لكن قولوا اسلمنا و لما يدخل الايمان في قلوبكم و ان تطيعوا الله و رسوله لا يلتكم من اعمالكم شيئا ان الله غفور رحيم

The Bedouins say," We have faith." Say," You do not have faith yet; rather say," We have embraced Islam," for faith has not yet entered into your hearts. Yet if you obey Allah and His Apostle, He will not stint anything of the reward of your works. Indeed Allah is all-forgiving, all-merciful.[1]

يا ايها الذين آمنوا آمنوا بالله و رسوله و الكتاب الذي نزل على رسوله و الكتاب الذي انزل من قبل و من يكفر بالله و ملائكته و كتبه و رسله و اليوم الآخر فقد ضل ضلالا بعيدا

O you who have faith! Have faith in Allah and His Apostle and the Book that He has sent down to His Apostle and the Book He had sent down earlier. Whoever disbelieves in Allah and His angels, His Books and His apostles and the Last Day, has certainly strayed into far error.[2]

Everyone first of all should become a human being then a Muslim and then a faithful or follower of holy Prophets Progeny (Peace be upon them all). One who fails to become a real human being can't become a real Muslim or true follower of Imam Ali

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-49, Verse-14
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-4, Verse-136

(Peace be upon him). Here is a story described by President Raja'ei's nephew (son of his sister) Yousuf Sabbaghian, to throw light upon how humanitarian behavior he had with others:

Martyr Raja'ei's mother passed away in 1967 AD. According to her will her body was shifted to Qom and buried in Wadi-al-Salam Cemetery. After burial ceremony we moved to holy shrine of Hazrat Masooma (Peace be upon her) to perform *ziarah*. Entering the holy shrine a crazy child hit me on my eye with a little stone by his toy gun.

Angrily I slapped the boy with a heavy hand. He couldn't resist and felt unconscious after falling on the ground. I got scared, ran away and hided in the bus by which we had come and were to go back. After sometime all the family members came back except Martyr Raja'ei, who returned after Two hours. Everyone was asking him about his delay as they were aware about his punctuality. When I asked him about it, he said, "At least you should get ashamed".

Then he simply sat next to me. In the way, I asked several times about his angriness, but he avoided it. When I stressed more and requested him

to say something about what happened, he said, "You slap others' children and then make an escape. I took him to the hospital and after physical examination conducted by the doctor, when he recovered, I took him to his home and told everything to his mother. I also gave her our phone number and said to her, if her child got well we would thank God, otherwise she should make a phone call to me, I would handover my nephew to her".[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity (Ramz Jawedangi), Page-26

Woman at Work

One fine morning I saw Martyr Raja'ei's wife standing in a queue to buy some breads. I paid Salam to her and asked, ''Has Mr. Raja'ei been arrested that you have to get breads yourself''?

'' No, it is not so'', she replied.

''He has advised me to become acquainted with outside works too because incase he is arrested, I will not have any trouble in going outside and if anything happens to me he will be able to perform domestic work''.[1]

إنّ المُسلمين و المُسلمات و المُؤمنين و المُؤمنات و القانتين و القانتات و الصّادقين و الصّادقات و الصّابرين و الصّابرات و الخاشعين و الخاشعات و المُتصدّقين و المُتصدّقات و الصّائمين و الصّائمات و الحافظين فُروجهُم و الحافظات و الذاكرين الله كثيرا و الذاكرات أعدّ اللهُ لهُم مَغفرة و أجرا عظيما

و ما كان لمُؤمن و لا مُؤمنة إذا قضى اللهُ و رسُولهُ أمرا أن يكون لهُمُ الخيرةُ من أمرهم و من يَعص اللهَ و رسُولهُ فقد ضلّ ضلالا مُبينا

[1] Secret of Eternity (Ramz Jawedangi)

Indeed the Muslim men and the Muslim women, the faithful men and the faithful women, the obedient men and the obedient women, the truthful men and the truthful women, the patient men and the patient women, the humble men and the humble women, the charitable men and the charitable women, the men who fast and the women who fast, the men who guard their private parts and the women who guard, the men who remember Allah greatly and the women who remember Allah greatly Allah holds in store for them forgiveness and a great reward.

A faithful man or woman may not, when Allah and His Apostle have decided on a matter, have any option in their matter, and whoever disobeys Allah and His Apostle has certainly strayed into manifest error[1].

وَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ يَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَ يَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَ يُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَ يُطِيعُونَ اللَّهَ وَ رَسُولَهُ أُولَئِكَ سَيَرْحَمُهُمُ اللَّهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

But the faithful, men and women, are comrades of one another: they bid what is right and forbid what is wrong and maintain the prayer, give the zakat, and obey Allah and His Apostle. It is they to whom Allah will soon grant His mercy. Indeed Allah is all-mighty, all-wise[2].

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-33, Verse-35-36
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-9, Verse-71

Resistance For An Immaculate Objective

Hasan Askari Rad narrates: In Shah's period the revolutionary prisoners were dealt with a heavy hand and were tortured brutally. They used to be lashed out on their feet soles in such a way that they were forced to crawl over through their knees.

Martyr Raja'ei says, when I used to be taken in the torture room, where captives were tortured, I used to entrust myself under the protection of God, reciting some verses of holy Qur'an as well as some supplications till I felt some power of resistance in myself. Then I could feel that these lashes could have no effect on me, rather it was such a routine matter for me that if I was not punished for any day I thought, perhaps God has withdrawn His mercy upon me.

One thing I always uttered to myself in the prison was, 'O Raja'ei! Why do you always study others fate? Why don't you write your own destiny with your own hands so that others may take a lesson from it?'[1]

Indeed he faced all the challenges of life with reliance on God.

اِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا تَتَنَزَّلُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ اَلَّا تَخَافُوا وَ لَا تَحْزَنُوا وَ اَبْشِرُوا بِالْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي كُنْتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ

Indeed those who say, "Our Lord is Allah!" and then remain steadfast, the angels descend upon them, saying, "Do not fear, nor be grieved! Receive the good news of the paradise which you have been promised"[2].

اِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَ لَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

Indeed those who say," Our Lord is Allah," and then remain steadfast, they will have no fear, nor will they grieve[3].

وَ اَنْ لَوِ اسْتَقَامُوا عَلَى الطَّرِيقَةِ لَاَسْقَيْنَاهُمْ مَاءً غَدَقًا

If they are steadfast on the path [of Allah], We shall provide them with abundant water[4].

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*,Page-18
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-41, Verse-30
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-46, Verse-13
[4] Holy Quran, Surah-72, Verse-16

Life with Contentment

Hasan Askari Rad mentions: Martyr Raja'ei's contentment was the talk of the town. Everyone appreciated him in this regard. In 1974, before his imprisonment, some of his old pupils went to Refah School to meet him. At their departure he gave each of them a pen as a gesture of remarkable gift and kept one pen for himself which he later on used to write some daily important notes.

It is also famous about him that he used to tear apart the unused portion of a written paper and kept it in his pocket to utilize at the time of need. Even during his presidency and premiership he instructed others too to follow this practice. By this way of contentment he used to distribute whatever

surplus money he could save, amongst the needy and destitute as Qarzi *Hasanah*.[1]

وَ آتِ ذَا الْقُرْبَى حَقَّهُ وَ الْمِسْكِينَ وَ ابْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَ لَا تُبَذِّرْ تَبْذِيرًا

Give the relatives their due right, and the needy and the traveller as well, but do not squander wastefully[2].

إِنَّ الْمُبَذِّرِينَ كَانُوا إِخْوَانَ الشَّيَاطِينِ وَ كَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ لِرَبِّهِ كَفُورًا

Indeed the wasteful are brothers of satans, and Satan is ungrateful to his Lord[3].

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good (to others) just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption[4].

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*,Page-27
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-17, Verse-26
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-17, Verse-27
[4] Holy Quran, Surah-28, Verse-77

Chapter 2

From Education to Ministry of Education

Dismissal of a Misguided Teacher

Once a friend of mine came to me[1] and said, "A complaint has been lodged against me in the Court of law and now I have been dismissed from the services". I promised him to apprise Mr. Raja'ei about his problem. When he came I said, "It is reported that a teacher has been dismissed from his services". He said, "In fact, that teacher one day said to the students that they were free to do whatever they wanted, with the result everyone got busy in his own business, but the student who started reciting the verses of holy Quran was stopped by the teacher as that book (May Allah forgive us) would ruin his thoughts.

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[1] Ghulam Reza Fazeli, his barber

يا أيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا عَلَيْكُمْ أَنفُسَكُمْ لا يَضُرُّكُمْ مَنْ ضَلَّ إِذَا اهْتَدَيْتُمْ
إِلَى اللهِ مَرْجِعُكُمْ جَمِيعًا فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِمَا كُنتُمْ تَعْمَلُونَ

O you who have faith! Take care of your own souls. He who strays cannot hurt you if you are guided. To Allah will be the return of you all, whereat He will inform you concerning what you used to do[1].

The student, belonging to a religious family, brought the matter into the notice of his father. His father came to school and discussed the matter with the teacher. While discussion, he came to know that the teacher was a misguided person.

ذَلِكَ مَبْلَغُهُمْ مِنَ الْعِلْمِ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنِ اهْتَدَى

That is the ultimate reach of their knowledge. Indeed your Lord knows best those who stray from His way, and He knows best those who are [rightly] guided[2].

So he lodged a complaint against him in the court of law and the court ordered for his dismissal.

However, if you know him and certify that he would accept his fault, ask him to come to me and simply say that 'he has made a mistake', I will issue his reappointment order.[3]

فَمَنْ تَابَ مِنْ بَعْدِ ظُلْمِهِ وَ أَصْلَحَ فَإِنَّ اللهَ يَتُوبُ عَلَيْهِ إِنَّ اللهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-5, Verse-105
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-53, Verse-30
[3] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaheed Raja'ei)*, Page-629

But whoever repents after his wrongdoing, and reforms, then Allah shall accept his repentance. Indeed Allah is all-forgiving, all-merciful[1].

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-5, Verse-39

Paying a Visit to His Pupil

وَ الَّذِينَ صَبَرُوا ابْتِغاءَ وَجْهِ رَبِّهِمْ وَ أَقامُوا الصَّلاةَ وَ أَنْفَقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْناهُمْ سِرًّا وَ عَلانِيَةً وَ يَدْرَؤُنَ بِالْحَسَنَةِ السَّيِّئَةَ أُولئِكَ لَهُمْ عُقْبَى الدَّارِ

Those who are patient for the sake of their Lord's pleasure, maintain the prayer, and spend out of what We have provided them, secretly and openly, and repel evil [conduct] with good. For such will be the reward of the [ultimate] abode[1].

Sayyid Ali Banai one of his pupils says:

Teaching was the most favorite profession of Martyr Raja'ei. He was indeed a good, talented and active teacher. In the beginning he appeared to be somewhat strict, but gradually his sympathy towards children, sweet smile, dignity and sensitivity attracted everyone. His every action had a positive effect over the children.

Once a student who was alleged to be a *SAWAK* agent met with a road accident and his foot got fractured. Despite Martyr Raja'ei being a strict

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-13, Verse-22

opponent of *SAWAK,* he asked his students to get ready to go to pay a visit to that student.

Indeed a teacher's visit to his pupil was a lesson for everyone.[1]

اولئك يؤتون اجرهم مرتين بما صبروا و يدرؤن بالحسنة السيئة و مما رزقناهم ينفقون

Those will be given their reward two times for their patience. They repel evil [conduct] with good, and spend out of what We have provided them[2].

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-27
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-28, Verse-54

Teacher- A Lighting Candle

وَ كَذٰلِكَ يَجْتَبِيكَ رَبُّكَ وَ يُعَلِّمُكَ مِنْ تَأْوِيلِ الْأَحَادِيثِ وَ يُتِمُّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكَ وَ عَلَىٰ آلِ يَعْقُوبَ كَمَا أَتَمَّهَا عَلَىٰ أَبَوَيْكَ مِنْ قَبْلُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَ إِسْحَاقَ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ

That is how your Lord will choose you, and teach you the interpretation of dreams, and complete His blessing upon you and upon the house of Jacob, just as He completed it earlier for your fathers, Abraham and Isaac. Your Lord is indeed all-knowing, all-wise[1].

Hasan Askari Rad says:

Teaching was the most favorite profession of Martyr Raja'ei. The discourses of Ayatollah Taliqani had a great influence over him. He had heard from him that teaching others was the profession of God's apostles so he decided to choose this profession for him.

هُوَ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِي الْأُمِّيِّينَ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَ يُزَكِّيهِمْ وَ يُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَ الْحِكْمَةَ وَ إِنْ كَانُوا مِنْ قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُبِينٍ

It is He who sent to the unlettered [people] an apostle from among themselves, to recite to them His signs, to purify them, and to

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-12, Verse-6

teach them the Book and wisdom, and earlier they had indeed been in manifest error.[1]

كما أرسلنا فيكم رسولا منكم يتلوا عليكم آياتنا و يزكيكم و يعلمكم الكتاب و الحكمة و يعلمكم ما لم تكونوا تعلمون

As We sent to you an Apostle from among yourselves, who recites to you Our signs, and purifies you, and teaches you the Book and wisdom, and teaches you what you did not know.[2]

He often used to say to his colleague teachers, "Brothers and sisters! You are guiding light for humanity, as was Professor Martyr Mutahhrari. Everyone makes something and you make the man". Once he was asked how the profession of teaching was. He said, "The best". When someone said, "But its income is very low", he mentioned, "Then it is the worst one".

Giving two different answers he meant to say that if someone becomes a teacher just to earn money regardless of what significance this pure profession has, he has chosen the worst one. He often said, "I made a mistake to become a teacher because the responsibility of a teacher is very tough

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-62, Verse-2
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-151

but if I am asked again to choose a service I will repeat the same mistake".[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-29

The Importance of a Teacher

لقد مَنّ اللهُ علَى المُؤمنينَ إذ بَعثَ فيهِمْ رَسُولاً مِنْ أنفسِهِمْ يَتلُوا عَليهِمْ آياتِهِ وَ يُزكّيهِمْ وَ يُعلّمُهُمُ الكِتابَ وَ الحِكْمَةَ وَ إنْ كانُوا مِنْ قبْلُ لفي ضَلالٍ مُبين

Allah certainly favored the faithful when He raised up among them an apostle from among themselves to recite to them His signs and to purify them, and to teach them the Book and wisdom, and earlier they had indeed been in manifest error[1].

كما أرْسَلنا فيكُمْ رَسُولاً مِنكُمْ يَتلُوا عَليكُمْ آياتِنا وَ يُزكّيكُمْ وَ يُعلّمُكُمُ الكِتابَ وَ الحِكْمَةَ وَ يُعلّمُكُمْ ما لَمْ تكونُوا تعلَمُونَ

As We sent to you an Apostle from among yourselves, who recites to you Our signs, and purifies you, and teaches you the Book and wisdom, and teaches you what you did not know.[2]

هُوَ الذي بَعَثَ في الأمّيّينَ رَسُولاً مِنهُمْ يَتلُوا عَليهِمْ آياتِهِ وَ يُزكّيهِمْ وَ يُعلّمُهُمُ الكِتابَ وَ الحِكْمَةَ وَ إنْ كانُوا مِنْ قبْلُ لفي ضَلالٍ مُبين

It is He who sent to the unlettered [people] an apostle from among themselves, to recite to them His signs, to purify them, and to teach them the Book and wisdom, and earlier they had indeed been in manifest error.[3]

من علمنی حرفا صیرنی عبدا

He who taught me a word made me his slave.[4]

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-164
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-151
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-62, Verse-2
[4] *Nahj Al-Balaghah*

Kadhim Nayeeni, a friend of Martyr Raja'ei narrates:

Before the Islamic revolution Tehran was divided into two parts; Northern and Southern. In Northern part of capital the majority was of the wealthy and rich people, while in Southern most of the people were poor and destitute. Most of the teachers, tried their posting in Northern city in order to fill their pockets well. As a result in the Southern part there was deficiency in the teaching staff while as the Northern was having excess staff.

After the success of revolution Martyr Raja'ei became the Minister for Education. One day a teacher came to him and requested to get him transferred any way to Southern part of Tehran.

Martyr Raja'ei said, "I am telling you once again that your application is not acceptable as per rules."

The Teacher got furious and said, "Just I am going to purchase a gun to knock your belly out".

Martyr Raja'ei replied, "I heard that you are going to knock your belly out. I got scared, because

in that case I am answerable to your sixty students, who will be deprived of their teacher."

Then in a sweet voice he said. My brother! If you want to kill me there will be no loss as you will find lot of people ready to become a Minister of Education. But it needs love and burning heart to become a teacher, for which no one will be ready."[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*,Page-30

His Behavior with the Indisciplined Students

According to Hasan Askari Rad, he was very sincere and friendly to the students, if any one of them did any mistake he instead of expelling him from the class, as other teachers usually do, tried to admonish him indirectly without hurting his personality.

لا يُحِبُّ اللَّهُ الْجَهْرَ بِالسُّوءِ مِنَ الْقَوْلِ إِلاَّ مَنْ ظُلِمَ وَ كَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعاً عَلِيماً

Allah does not like the disclosure of anyone's [evil] conduct in speech except by someone who has been wronged, and Allah is all-hearing, all-knowing.[1]

He believed that expulsion of student from class for admonishment is failure of the teacher not of the student. So when he wanted to punish a student, at most he didn't allow him to participate in

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-4, Verse-148

games and always tried to correct the students' mistakes with a kind and polite attitude.[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-32

Teaching with Humorous Touch

His student Baqir Angusht Baf says:

A number of his students reveal that, Martyr Raja'ei, while teaching, used to describe Iran's relations with America like country with the help of humor and examples and thus made his pupils understand how their foreign policy, economy and culture was exploited by some alien forces.

Once he drew a funny picture on the black board, showing an ugly fat man with fat nose, containing the picture of a feeble man in his bulky belly and said, "Generally the rights of the destitute and the weak governments are grabbed by the strong individuals and powerful governments. Despite both the persons, whose pictures I have drawn here, have equal right to live a standard life, both of them are equal near God, but reality is somewhat different. Most of those who possess any

kind of power in society do snatch the rights of others just like this fat man".[1]

يا أيها الناس إنا خلقناكم من ذكر و أنثى و جعلناكم شعوبا و قبائل لتعارفوا إن أكرمكم عند الله أتقاكم إن الله عليم خبير

O mankind! Indeed We created you from a male and a female, and made you nations and tribes that you may identify yourselves with one another. Indeed the noblest of you in the sight of Allah is the most God wary among you. Indeed Allah is all-knowing, all-aware[2].

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-33
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-49, Verse-13

Best Teacher of the Year

Hormoz Tawoosi, President Raja'ei's friend and colleague in Mir Damad School says:

During the regime of Shah, 'Best Teacher of the Year' used to be offered an official award by the then Ministry of Education. Once, Martyr Raja'ei was selected as 'The Best and Exemplary Teacher of the Year'. Someone asked him if he was ready to receive the award? He said, "No, I don't need it".

The Principal of the school surprisingly said, "If I had been offered this award, that too by the hand of Shah, even in the dream I would become mad in happiness".

Raja'ei said, "You are right, May this medal be a good luck for you, but my award is only a student's smile after he understands the lesson well in my class and I am proud of it".[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-39

و اما الذين آمنوا و عملوا الصالحات فيوفيهم اجورهم و الله لا يحب الظالمين

But as for those who have faith and do righteous deeds, He will pay them in full their rewards, and Allah does not like the wrongdoers[1].

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-57

A Student Cannot Be a Thief

Kadhim Nayeeni[1] narrates:

All students were present in the class. The teacher came in and took out a picture from his bag and showed it to everyone and then began to admire the Western system of education. After that he started to criticize the Iranian culture saying, "How well the Western students behave with their teachers and look here one student has stolen my spectacles".

وَ ما يَتَّبِعُ أَكْثَرُهُمْ إِلاَّ ظَنًّا إِنَّ الظَّنَّ لا يُغْني مِنَ الْحَقِّ شَيْئاً إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَليمٌ بِما يَفْعَلُونَ

Most of them just follow conjecture; indeed conjecture is no substitute for the truth. Indeed Allah knows best what they do.[2]

يا أَيُّهَا الَّذينَ آمَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثيراً مِنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ وَ لا تَجَسَّسُوا وَ لا يَغْتَبْ بَعْضُكُمْ بَعْضاً أَ يُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخيهِ مَيْتاً فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ وَ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ رَحيمٌ

O you who have faith! Avoid much suspicion. Indeed some suspicions are sins. And do not spy on or backbite one another. Will

[1] Friend of President Raja'ei
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-10, Verse-36

any of you love to eat the flesh of his dead brother? You would hate it. And be wary of Allah; indeed Allah is all-clement, all-merciful.[1]

All the students were silent and listening to his humiliating words patiently but Raja'ei couldn't bear it. He stood up and said, "sorry sir! A student can never be a thief, but it is due to your negligence that you have lost your spectacles. What has happened to you? Why are you admiring so much the western culture? Of what use is showing a little picture that is hardly seen from the place close to it and not to speak of seeing from a distance? How can we assess the American culture as 'good' just by seeing two or three pictures?

On this the teacher got out of control and cried out, "Out". Raja'ei immediately left the place and a number of students followed him too.[2]

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-49, Verse-12

[2] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaeed Raja'ei)*, Page-47

Following the *Shariah*

Kadhim Nayeeni says:

During the college days, once we were sitting and chatting somewhere. Suddenly Raja'ei turned serious and said, ''Only we two persons keep beard in the college, the rest of all are clean shaved and ridicule us with the remarks of 'Namazi' and 'Mulla'.''

يا أيّها الذين آمنوا مَن يَرتَدّ مِنكُم عَن دينِهِ فَسَوفَ يَأتي اللهُ بِقَومٍ يُحِبُّهُم وَ يُحِبّونَهُ أذِلّةٍ عَلى المُؤمِنينَ
أعِزّةٍ عَلى الكافِرينَ يُجاهِدونَ في سَبيلِ اللهِ وَ لا يَخافونَ لَومَةَ لائِمٍ ذلِكَ فَضلُ اللهِ يُؤتيهِ مَن يَشاءُ وَ اللهُ واسِعٌ عَليمٌ

O you who have faith! Should any of you desert his religion, Allah will soon bring a people whom He loves and who love Him, [who will be] humble towards the faithful, stern towards the faithless, waging jihad in the way of Allah, not fearing the blame of any blamer. That is Allah's grace which He grants to whomever He wishes, and Allah is all-bounteous, all-knowing.[1]

So if we don't study well or commit any inadmissible act it will not only hamper our personality but defame the religion too. Thus we should work hard more than others, if they study for one hour, we have to do for two hours''.

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-5, Verse-54

Even when I shared a joke with somebody, he indirectly asked me to restrain myself within limits.

"If you want to live like others then go and remove your beard first and then join them and do whatever you want, otherwise if you appeared to be a religious person then take care of your religiosity". [1]

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aja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaeed Raja'ei)*, Page-44

God Will Reward You

وَ اصْبِرْ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُضِيعُ أَجْرَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

And be patient; indeed Allah does not waste the reward of the virtuous[1].

يَسْتَبْشِرُونَ بِنِعْمَةٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَ فَضْلٍ وَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُضِيعُ أَجْرَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

They rejoice in Allah's blessing and grace, and that Allah does not waste the reward of the faithful[2].

Husain Khush Naweesan, one of his colleagues in Kamal School narrates:

Once, a student got less marks in mathematics paper evaluated by Martyr Raja'ei. His guardian, who had financially supported the School well, came to him with the request for enhancing the marks. But Martyr Raja'ei refused to do it. So he wanted to boast about his favours and said, "You don't know to what extent I have helped this school". Raja'ei

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-11, Verse-115
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-171

replied, "My dear! If you helped for the sake of God, He will reward you for it.

مَثَلُ الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ كَمَثَلِ حَبَّةٍ أَنْبَتَتْ سَبْعَ سَنَابِلَ فِي كُلِّ سُنْبُلَةٍ مِائَةُ حَبَّةٍ وَ اللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَ اللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ

Parable of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is that of a grain which grows seven ears, in every ear a hundred grains. Allah enhances several fold whomever He wishes, and Allah is all-bounteous, all-knowing[1].

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ثُمَّ لَا يُتْبِعُونَ مَا أَنْفَقُوا مَنًّا وَ لَا أَذًى لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَ لَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَ لَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

Those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah and then do not follow up what they have spent with reproaches and affronts, they shall have their reward near their Lord, and they will have no fear, nor will they grieve[2].

But if you have helped the management then go to them and if you have helped me, I will repay your money to you".[3]

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُبْطِلُوا صَدَقَاتِكُمْ بِالْمَنِّ وَ الْأَذَى كَالَّذِي يُنْفِقُ مَالَهُ رِئَاءَ النَّاسِ وَ لَا يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَ الْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ فَمَثَلُهُ كَمَثَلِ صَفْوَانٍ عَلَيْهِ تُرَابٌ فَأَصَابَهُ وَابِلٌ فَتَرَكَهُ صَلْدًا لَا يَقْدِرُونَ عَلَى شَيْءٍ مِمَّا كَسَبُوا وَ اللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الْكَافِرِينَ

O you who have faith! Do not render your charities void by reproaches and affronts, like those who spend their wealth to be seen

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-261
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-262
[3] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-38

by people and have no faith in Allah and the Last Day. Their parable is that of a rock covered with soil: a downpour strikes it, leaving it bare. They have no power over anything of what they have earned, and Allah does not guide the faithless lot[1].

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-264

Don’t Bow Before Anyone

According to one of his students, Khusroo Tehrani, he never bowed to pick up the duster ever slipped down from his hand. Instead he sat down straightly and picked it up without binding his waste and said to the students, "Children! Never bow before anyone except God and during the prayer".[1]

فَاسْجُدُوا لِلَّهِ وَ اعْبُدُوا

So prostrate yourselves to Allah and worship Him![2]

قُلْ أَ تَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ ما لا يَمْلِكُ لَكُمْ ضَرًّا وَ لا نَفْعاً وَ اللَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

Say," Do you worship, besides Allah, what has no power to bring you any benefit or harm, while Allah He is the All-hearing, the All-knowing?![3]

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[1] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaheed Raja'ei)*, Page-342

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-53, Verse-62

[3] Holy Quran, Surah-5, Verse-76

Chapter 3

Premiership and Presidency

Admissible Rates

Jafar Elaqemandan says:

It was September 1980. Marty Raja'ei asked me, "Aren't you going to offer Friday congregational prayers"? I nodded in affirmation and all of us got in an old bus. Reaching Akptan Road the driver wanted to move towards Jumhoori Islami Street but Raja'ei said, "Please go from this side if you don't mind". After sometime he asked the driver to slow down a bit and examined outside carefully. Then after moving a little ahead he said, "Thanks God, in-spite of war the fruits prices are admissible".[1]

إنّما وليّكم الله و رسوله و الذين آمنوا الذين يقيمون الصلاة و يؤتون الزكاة و هم راكعون

Your guardian is only Allah, His Apostle, and the faithful who maintain the prayer and give the zakat while bowing down[2].

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[1] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaheed Raja'ei)*, Page-418

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-5, Verse-55

This holy verse, in the consensus of entire commentators, was revealed about Hazrat Ali, the chief of the faithful (Peace be upon him) after he gave his wring to a beggar while performing the Ruku.[1]

A prominent contemporary Islamic scholar Mr. Abdullah Sadeqi views that the verse is undoubtedly about Hazrat Ali (Peace be upon him) but it also wants to point out that the person has a right to lead and govern a human society, who never neglects people even while he is worshipping Allah with an extraordinary sincerity[2]. President Raja'ei's paying most of his attention towards the problems of people, traveling in an ordinary bus and carefully monitoring the market prices even while going to offer Friday Prayer denote the fact that he was a true devotee and follower of Imam Ali (Peace be upon him) the founder of the ever first and last just government in human history, and had right to govern a country like the Islamic Republic of Iran.

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[1] See Ayat Al-Ahkam, Volume-1, Page-203, Tafseer Tabri, Volume-2, Page-411,
[2] See Abdullah Sadeqi's speech at 'Series of Academic Meetings on Islamic Contexts' at Qom Islamic Seminary, translated in Urdu by the author and published by Taha Foundation's Qom branch.

Fresh Pears

Kamal Tabrizi, one of his office bearers narrates:

During summer, when there were no pears in the market yet, someone brought Raja'ei's secretary some fresh pears as a gift for the Prime Minister. When the washed fresh pears were presented to him he asked, 'who has brought these'?

Somebody replied, "That particular person".

Raja'ei immediately called that person and said, "Do you know how Mohammad Reza Shah Pahlawi became king?

It was due to these usual gifts and presents; one day fresh pears, next day a rare fruit and other day a precious gift, that caused him think how much he is respected and loved by the people. Same was the case with Bani Sadr who was featured by his

puppets, with the result he considered himself the king of Iran.

If you really want to serve me then remind me that I am the same Mohammad Ali Raja'ei son of Abdul Samad who used to sell pots in his youth and don't let me be pridey by these things".[1]

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[1] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaeed Raja'ei)*, Page-574

An Album

Martyr Raja'ei once paid a visit to Khurasan province, inspected various places there and returned to Tehran. The Manager of the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza (Peace be upon him) prepared an album containing snapshots of his trip and sent it to him. On seeing the album he called me[1] and asked, "What have they done? Send it back to them".

Mr. Lutfi, Head of the Department of Public Relations explained, that it was a gift from them. But he didn't accept and said, "No, it is not good". Then he asked me, " What is your opinion about it"? I said, "It is not good". Then he explained, "If they did it on their own expenses, they have committed extravagance and if they have spent money from

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[1] Khusroo Tehrani, Martyr Raja'ei's student

public exchequer they have not done well. Finally, he returned the album back to them.

وَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَنفَقُوا لَمْ يُسْرِفُوا وَ لَمْ يَقْتُرُوا وَ كَانَ بَيْنَ ذَٰلِكَ قَوَامًا

Those who, when spending, are neither wasteful nor tightfisted, and moderation lies between these extremes[1].

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-25, Verse-67

First Priority is for Congregational Prayers

حافظوا على الصّلوات و الصّلاة الوُسطى و قومُوا لله قانتين

Be watchful of your prayers, and [especially] the middle prayer, and stand in obedience to Allah[1].

It was a routine for the teaching staff of Kamal School to conduct a special programme every month. In this programme after the recitation and exegesis of holy Qur'an there used to be a general discussion round on current political affairs too.

The programme usually started after evening congregational prayers was attended by the prominent personalities like Raja'ei, Jalal al Din Farsi, Dr Bahunar, Dr Bahzoodi, Dr Karshenas and others.

Once, this programme was held at my residence. Jalal al Din Farsi asked Martyr Raja'ei, "If

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-238

the Islamic government is established and you may happen to be the Prime Minister, what would be your priority?"

Raja'ei replied, "First of all I would order for congregational prayers in all government offices". We all laughed, as that time no one could imagine about the collapse of Shah's regime.

It was after 15 years of this event when Raja'ei took over the charge of premiership, the first announcement on the Radio was that Prime Minister Raja'ei has ordered for congregational prayers in all government offices. Hearing it, I[1] extremely uttered, "Raja'ei! May God bless your parents, we laughed when you said it at that time, but today you got it proved".[2]

الذین ان مکّنّاہم فی الارض اقاموا الصلٰوۃ وآتوا الزکاۃ وامروا بالمعروف ونہوا عن المنکر وللہ عاقبۃ الامور

(They are) those who, if we establish them in the land, establish regular prayer and give Zakat, enjoin the right are forbid wrong, with Allah rests the end of all affairs.[3]

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[1] Martyr Raja'ei's friend, Rajab Ali Zamani, an employee of Kamal Shool

[2] Raja'ei Ghulam Ali, Character of Martyr Raja'ei *(Sireh Shaheed Raja'ei)*, Page-465

[3] Holy Quran, Sura-22, Verse- 41

وَ مَا أُمِرُوا إِلاَّ لِيَعْبُدُوا اللّٰهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَ يُقِيمُوا الصَّلاَةَ وَ يُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَ ذَلِكَ دِينُ الْقَيِّمَةِ

Yet they were not commanded except to worship Allah, dedicating their faith to Him as men of pure faith, and to maintain the prayer and pay the zakat. That is the upright religion[1].

وَ أَقِيمُوا الصَّلاَةَ وَ آتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَ ارْكَعُوا مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ

And maintain the prayer, and give the zakat, and bow along with those who bow in prayer[2].

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-98, Verse-5
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-43

No Personal Visit

His nephew (the son of his sister) Abd Al-Samad Raja'ei says:

It was about 9:30 AM, I went to meet my uncle, Mr. Raja'ei, Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran at his office. I requested his secretary to inform him that I intended to meet him. He returned with negative answer. On my insistence he went again and now I was asked to wait.

My uncle came out twice for some purpose, saw me, but didn't say anything and went inside just having a look over me and nodding his head. Then near about 12 noon he came out again and took me with him to his room. Expressing unhappiness I told him, "Uncle I have been here since 9:30 AM and you even didn't pay any heed to me!". He said, "I know it but that was not my time. Instead it was the time

of 36 million Iranian people and you had come just to meet me. Had you come for an official work, I would have met you at the same time and would have done your job. You had come during the office time for your personal work, so I couldn't meet you. Now being free from 12 to 1pm I can share this time with you". [1]

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا الْأَمَانَاتِ إِلَى أَهْلِهَا وَ إِذَا حَكَمْتُمْ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ أَنْ تَحْكُمُوا بِالْعَدْلِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ نِعِمَّا يَعِظُكُمْ بِهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ سَمِيعًا بَصِيرًا

Indeed Allah commands you to deliver the trusts to their rightful owners, and, when you judge between people, to judge with fairness. Excellent indeed is what Allah advises you. Indeed Allah is all-hearing, all-seeing[2].

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-60
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-4, Verse-58

A Popular Picture

There is a popular picture, showing Martyr Raja'ei with an old man touching his chin while both are gazing intensely towards each other.

Political activists, as you must have seen during the period of election campaign, do publicize the pictures of their favorite candidates with different slogans and sentences in order to attract people towards them. Most of these portraits are not real as well as the quotations mostly attributed to the candidates are not their own.

According to Kioo Marth Saberi, after Bani Sadr fled from Iran and Martyr Raja'ei gave his consent to contest for presidential elections, his supporters wanted to publicize that popular picture with a slight change by exhibiting the old man saying, "I support you just to get Islam implemented in the society".

Martyr Raja'ei didn't agree on this, arguing, "This is a lie, for that man didn't say this, he said something else".[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-68

The Objective is Islam Not the Status

ا حَسِبَ النَّاسُ اَنْ يُتْرَكُوا اَنْ يَقُولُوا آمَنَّا وَ هُمْ لا يُفْتَنُون

وَ لَقَدْ فَتَنَّا الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ فَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ اللهُ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا وَ لَيَعْلَمَنَّ الكاذِبِين

Do the people suppose that they will be let off because they say," We have faith," and they will not be tested?

Certainly We tested those who were before them. So Allah shall surely ascertain those who are truthful, and He shall surely ascertain the liars.[1]

According to Jafar Elaqemandan, he always said, "When someone says that he is member of that Islamic association he must know that millions of martyrs and self-sacrificing persons simply tell him to get Islam and Islami principles implemented in the society".

"The families of martyrs always expect Prime Minister, President and ministers to preserve the gift

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-29, Verse-2 and 3

of their martyrs i. e. Islam and its implementation in the society. All of you have right to question me about my deeds and about my services towards Islam, the destitudes and deprived. Irrespective of my status, being president or something else, you should ask me and all other officials about their performance. On the other side all the officials should ask themselves what they have done so far for Islam".[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-70

Simple Life

Hasan Askari Rad narrates:

When Martyr Raja'ei became the Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a friend of him, who was his colleague teacher, came to his office to meet him. When he Looked at furniture particularly the desk and chair of Martyr Raja'ei became unhappy and said, "Mr. Raja'ei! Now you are Prime Minister, these wood chairs are good for a class room not for your office. Above all, what wrong have your ministers done that they have to sit on these hard chairs like school boys?!

He replied, "While sitting on soft chairs, the ministers wouldn't realize the difficulties and hardships of the people. The softness of the chairs would put the Ministers into slumber and they may

forget that they are ministers of the *Islamic Republic*".[1]

وَ زُخْرُفًا وَ إِن كُلُّ ذَٰلِكَ لَمَّا مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَ الْآخِرَةُ عِندَ رَبِّكَ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ

And ornaments of gold; yet all that would be nothing but the wares of the life of this world, and the Hereafter near your Lord is for the God wary.[2]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-74

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-43, Verse-35

Prime Minister's Office

Hasan Askari Rad says:

I was the in-charge of Martyr Raja'ei's office. There were some superior chairs, a simple working table, two sofas and a table for guests in my room. Once he came to my chamber, saw the sofas and asked, "What are these for?" I said, "For guests, as a gesture of protocol." He replied, ''Dear brother it is a working place, not a rest room. Sitting on these comfortable chairs the honorable guests may get sleepy and forget the purpose they had come for. Secondly seeing your splendid room, people may conclude that Prime Minister's chamber must be more luxurious. So I request you to remove all this from here so that people may feel that their Prime

Minister is not having a special privilege but is a simple man like them.[1]

وَ زُخْرُفًا وَ اِنْ كُلُّ ذٰلِكَ لَمَّا مَتَاعُ الْحَيٰوةِ الدُّنْيَا وَ الْاٰخِرَةُ عِنْدَ رَبِّكَ لِلْمُتَّقِيْنَ

And ornaments of gold; yet all that would be nothing but the wares of the life of this world, and the Hereafter near your Lord is for the God wary[2].

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[1] Secret of Eternity (*Ramz Jawedangi*), Page-75

[2] Holy Quran, Surah-43, Verse-35

Service to the Nation

According to Hasan Askari Rad, once Martyr Raja'ei dismissed a minister from his office. When he was asked about his removal, he said, "He thought that the house of 300 square meters was insufficient for him and his family to live in and wanted one of the houses surrendered by the personnel of ex-deponent regime to be presented or sold to him, so that his family will not face any difficulty.

I said the purpose of our revolution was not to occupy the splendid buildings of ex-despotic regime. Our uprising was instead to resolve the problems of the people; if we too begin to live a luxurious life like those we may forget about the sufferings of the people. Being a Prime Minister I feel pain to imagine lest God may have created the widest place in hell

for a Prime Minister, as every word and deed of him is related to the fate of 36 million people".[1]

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good to others just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption.

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-75

Patriotism

Hasan Askari Rad narrates:

He always said, "Our nation is excellent and it has no complaint against us. But what makes it unhappy and hampers its sentiments is injustice and misappropriation of public funds by some incompetent persons".

A television channel intended to air a documentary film of Martyr Raja'ei's residence. For this purpose some necessary constructions and repairs were made and the expenses were borne by Martyr Raja'ei himself. But when the team was ready to shoot the sight he regretfully said, "Leave it! I am embarrassed that some people have no shelter to live in and are longing for a single room. In this state of affairs you want to show them my home. It doesn't seem feasible"

One of his characteristics was that he and his family tried not to take any advantage from public funds so that rights of the people are not violated and a government based on justice is established in the country.[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-79

It is Sufficient Enough

One of his nephews, Mujtaba Rasooli says:

Once we the relatives of the Martyr Raja'ei wanted to have a get-together as we used to do in the past. I told my maternal uncle Martyr Raja'ei that what sin we have committed that after taking over as president, you have deprived us even to pay a visit. He replied, "You are right. Responsibilities of presidency and the busy schedule in resolving the problems of the people have kept me away from you. Therefore come on a scheduled day to my residence so that we could have a get-together with some refreshment and in this way I could perform my Islamic duty towards the relatives".

الذين يَنقُضُون عَهْدَ اللهِ مِن بَعْدِ مِيثاقِهِ وَ يَقطَعُون ما أمَرَ اللهُ بِهِ أن يُوصَلَ وَ يُفسِدُون في الأرض أولئك هُمُ الخاسِرُون

Those who break the covenant made with Allah after having pledged it solemnly, and sever what Allah has commanded to be

joined, and cause corruption on the earth it is they who are the losers.[1]

Accordingly, we came at his residence. He was living in a two room apartment, just like a temporary house-holder, who is living here for a few days and has to leave for somewhere else.

Then I saw a simple carpet spread in the room where a table with some wooden chairs around was arranged for our luncheon.

Just for a humor, I said, "You have humiliated the presidency with your over simplicity".

He said, "You are right".

I continued, "What do you mean? Is it not so?

Uncle, we don't want you to have the official furniture etc., but these chairs are usually meant for the lawns, not for the drawing room".

He said, "If it is resolved that there should be an Islamic and democratic government in the country and the ruler wants to establish a just administration then first of all he will have to bring himself down to the level of common people and live

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-27

like them, therefore what you are seeing here is more than enough..."[1]

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good to others just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption.[2]

يَا قَوْمِ إِنَّمَا هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا مَتَاعٌ وَ إِنَّ الْآخِرَةَ هِيَ دَارُ الْقَرَارِ

O my people! This life of the world is only a passing enjoyment, and indeed the Hereafter is the abiding home.[3]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-80
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-28, Verse-77
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-40, Verse-39

Simple Life

According to Hasan Askari Rad, he had no personal car till the last moments of his life. Before the revolution he used to say that when he could travel to anywhere with comfort simply buying a ticket in a public bus then why should he have bought a car just to waste time, money and freedom for its protection and repairs?

After the revolution when he held different sensitive posts like Ministry of Education, Parliament Membership, Premiership and at last Presidency, possessing full authority then he could have easily afford to have a car for his family but he didn't. The status and highest portfolios could least change his position with regard to his life and dress style. He wore the same dress he used to use while being a simple teacher. His friends constantly advised him to change his dress, for he had to interact with foreign

dignitaries and ministers but they could least convince him to go for a new suit. Instead he was proud of wearing the same old dress.[1]

و ما الحياةُ الدُّنيا إلا لعبٌ و لهوٌ و للدّارُ الآخرةُ خيرٌ للذين يتقون ا فلا تعقلون

The life of the world is nothing but play and diversion, and the abode of the Hereafter is surely better for those who are God wary. Do you not apply reason?[2]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-81
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-6, Verse-32

Sincere Word Works

Receiving the letter of his appointment as President of Islamic Republic of Iran, through the august hands of Imam Khomeini (RA), Martyr Raja'ei expressed, "O God! How many blessings that I never deserved, You have bestowed upon me. O God! Help me and protect me from the mistakes and sins that everyone commits after gaining some power". These heartfelt words speak about his firm belief and sincerity.

One of his nephews[1] says, after he became President, once I asked him what he was thinking about when Ahmad Khomeini (son of Imam Khomeini) was reading out his appointment letter. He said, "Do you remember when we were kids and playing a game in which one acted to be the king

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[1] Yoosuf Sabbaghian

and the other his minister and the next his slave. Then the king used to order his slave to do so and so?"

"Yes I remember," I said.

"You remember at the end we unanimously recited the lines of a poem:

Sar be sarat guzashtim. سر بہ سرت گذارشتیم
Kulah sarat gusazhtim. کلاہ سرت گذاشتیم
To fikr mi koni shahi. تو فکر گنی شاہی
Haman ghulame siahi. ہمان غلام سیاہی

We put our heads on yours, we befooled you. You think you are a king. No, you are the same black slave as you were before.

When the appointment letter was being read out, I thought and asked myself not to be arrogant. It is ok that right now you are a President, but in fact you are the same black slave, the status and the position is a timely matter."

No Extravagance!

يَا بَنِي آدَمَ خُذُوا زِينَتَكُمْ عِنْدَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَ كُلُوا وَ اشْرَبُوا وَ لَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

O Children of Adam! Put on your adornment on every occasion of prayer, and eat and drink, but do not waste; indeed He does not like the wasteful.[1]

وَ هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْشَأَ جَنَّاتٍ مَعْرُوشَاتٍ وَ غَيْرَ مَعْرُوشَاتٍ وَ النَّخْلَ وَ الزَّرْعَ مُخْتَلِفًا أُكُلُهُ وَ الزَّيْتُونَ وَ الرُّمَّانَ مُتَشَابِهًا وَ غَيْرَ مُتَشَابِهٍ كُلُوا مِنْ ثَمَرِهِ إِذَا أَثْمَرَ وَ آتُوا حَقَّهُ يَوْمَ حَصَادِهِ وَ لَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

It is He who produces gardens trellised and without trellises, and palm-trees and crops of diverse produce, olives and pomegranates, similar and dissimilar. Eat of its fruits when it fructifies, and give its due on the day of harvest, and do not be wasteful; indeed He does not like the wasteful.

According to Hasan Askari Rad, during his Premiership, a high level official meeting was hosted every week by a minister at his residence. Raja'ei, on his turn, arranged a very simple party. The simple dish of Pulaw used to be put on the table, along with some vegetables, that may suffice for the number of guests.

[1] Holy Quran, Surah-7, Verse-31

Once a minister joked, "When we happen to be the guest of Prime Minister, we need to fasten our stomach with a stone and eat carefully". Martyr Raja'ei who was busy in something smiled hearing this and said, "You have been invited here for work not for the party or entertainment and secondly how much can you eat? How much you can is on the table. The food is sufficient in accordance to the present number of guests, arranging more is prodigality which is forbidden in Islam".[1]

[1] Secret of Eternity (*Ramz Jawedangi*), Page-91

The Personal Guest or Official Protocol

One of his nephews[1] says: During the period of Raja'ei's presidency there was a security threat on the part of hypocrite terrorist outfits to civil administrative, executives and ministers. Therefore Imam Khomenie ordered for their complete security measures. Accordingly Mr. Raja'ei also had to shift to government residence.

In the meanwhile, once we were invited by him. Since he was provided with all official facilities at his new residence, I was happy and expected a splendid feast and service there. But after we were received, the same cups and other pots used to be in the former house, were put before us to have a simple tea and snacks. I joked, "Uncle! It is President's house then why the same cups"? He said,

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[1] Mustafa Rasooli

"If you are Raja'ei's guest then I have the same cups, samovar and other stuff but if you are the guest of the President of Islamic Republic then the matter is different."

"We have everything here but that belongs to public funds which we cannot use for ourselves and for our relatives."

وَ ابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَ لَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا وَ أَحْسِنْ كَمَا أَحْسَنَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْكَ وَ لَا تَبْغِ الْفَسَادَ فِي الْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

By the means of what Allah has given you, seek the abode of the Hereafter, while not forgetting your share of this world. Be good [to others] just as Allah has been good to you, and do not try to cause corruption in the land. Indeed Allah does not like the agents of corruption."

Prime Minister or Laborer!

You must have not seen a Prime Minister of a country doing labourer's job. Usually each State Head of the world is having a car, luxurious bungalow and lot of servants. But we have found a Prime Minister who brings the necessary domestic commodities to home on his shoulder. Yes, he is Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Martyr Mohammad Ali Raja'ei.

One of his neighbourers[1] says, one day I saw him carrying a rice bag on his shoulders to his home. I rushed to him, offered Salam and said, Sir! You are the Prime Minister, it doesn't suit you to do this type of work, let me help you. He replied the Salam and said, "Thank you very much, I should myself do my work and I will be rewarded for it.

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[1] Abu Al-Qasim Jabilli

قُلْ أَ غَيْرَ اللهِ أَبْغي رَبًّا وَ هُوَ رَبُّ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَ لا تَكْسِبُ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ إِلاَّ عَلَيْها وَ لا تَزِرُ وازِرَةٌ وِزْرَ أُخْرى ثُمَّ إِلى رَبِّكُمْ مَرْجِعُكُمْ فَيُنَبِّئُكُمْ بِما كُنْتُمْ فيهِ تَخْتَلِفُونَ

Say," Shall I seek a Lord other than Allah, while He is the Lord of all things?" No soul does evil except against itself, and no bearer shall bear another's burden; then to your Lord will be your return, whereat He will inform you concerning that about which you used to differ.[1]

Please don't deprive me of the reward promised by my God." Saying this he moved forward and I became really shocked.[2]

وَ لِكُلٍّ وِجْهَةٌ هُوَ مُوَلِّيها فَاسْتَبِقُوا الْخَيْراتِ أَيْنَ ما تَكُونُوا يَأْتِ بِكُمُ اللهُ جَميعاً إِنَّ اللهَ عَلى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَديرٌ

Everyone has a cynosure to which he turns; so take the lead in all good works. Wherever you may be, Allah will bring you all together. Indeed Allah has power over all things.[3]

يُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللهِ وَ الْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَ يَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَ يَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَ يُسارِعُونَ فِي الْخَيْراتِ وَ أُولئِكَ مِنَ الصَّالِحينَ

They have faith in Allah and the Last Day, and bid what is right and forbid what is wrong, and are active in [performing] good deeds. They are among the righteous.[4]

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-6, Verse-164
[2] Secret of Eternity (Ramz Jawedangi), Page-93
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-2, Verse-148
[4] Holy Quran, Surah-3, Verse-114

Lest I Be a Negligent

One of his nephews, Mujtaba Rasooli says:

When he was Prime Minister, once, I got in his room to deliver some message. Since it was summer I saw him wearing a simple torn under-shirt and having breakfast with dates and milk.

After greetings I said, "Why have you made your condition so? Why don't you take care of yourself? Why have you made life so tough for yourself? We don't ask you to become like Reza Shah Pahlavi but at least please take care of your dress and live in a way that you may appear to be a Prime Minister."

He heaved a sigh and said a historic sentence which I will never forget. He said, "Do not care about this condition of mine but think of that day when this office and post will make me forget my past."

"May Allah not show me the day when I will forget my responsibilities and duties, so, I request you to pray to God to enable me to perform my duties well."

I got impressed, moved ahead and kissed his forehead.[1]

و ذکّرْ فانّ الذّکری تنفعُ المؤمنین

And admonish, for admonition indeed benefits the faithful.[2]

فذکّرْ انْ نفعت الذّکری

So admonish, for admonition is indeed beneficial.[3]

سیذّکّرُ منْ یخشی

He who fears will take admonition.[4]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-96
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-51, Verse-55
[3] Holy Quran, Surah-87, Verse-9
[4] Holy Quran, Surah-87, Verse-10

Chapter 4

Rights of Allah and Rights of People

Worship during Nights

يا أيها المزمل
قم الليل إلا قليلا نصفه أو انقص منه قليلا
أو زد عليه ورتل القرآن ترتيلا

O you wrapped up in your mantle! Stand vigil through the night, except a little, a half, or reduce a little from that or add to it, and recite the Qur'an in a measured tone.[1]

According to Hasan Askari Rad, he used to worship and say prayers during nights but except very few times never let anyone, even his household, to know about it. He never forsook praying, reciting holy Quran and pondering over its verses after morning prayers.

His wife[2] says: Raja'ei, before the Islamic revolution till his martyrdom whenever he was at home, after morning prayers sometimes when he saw the kids yet sleeping while the sun was near to

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[1] Holy Quran, Surah-73, Verse-1,2,3,4
[2] Atiqa Siddiqi

rise and sweet and sound sleep didn't let them get up, made them awaken in a humorous way and said in a loud voice, "Don't talk loudly, lest the kids may awaken". Sometimes while sitting beside their pillows shook their shoulders gently, and made them get up for the prayers with a melodious tune.[1]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-84

Only For the Sake of God

According to one of his students, Khusroo Tehrani, those who knew Martyr Raja'ei or were acquainted with him anyway considered him a independent and honorable person. He newer bowed or begged before any one. Even he didn't bow to pick up the duster if got slipped down from his hand, but used to sit down straight way and picked it up.[1]

Adhering to the Islamic law and jurisprudence he believed that parents and elders must be given due respect and said, "We owe to our parents and elders too much and can't repay to them".

He always advised his students to stretch their hand and not to bow before anyone except Allah and at the time of prayers.

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَ إِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

You alone do we worship, and to You alone do we turn for help.[2]

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[1] Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-85
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-1, Verse-5

Prayer on Its Right Time

Hasan Askari Rad narrates:

Without any exaggeration and with no hyperbole; One of the characteristics of Martyr Raja'ei was to offer his daily obligatory prayers particularly the Noon prayers (which's prime time is generally the time for meals and rest) well in time but on priority. It can be said without any exaggeration that he continued this practice, till the end of his life. If he incidentally couldn't offer any prayer on its prime time, he used to fast for the next day to compensate it. On Thursdays he invariably observed the recommended *(Mustahabbi)* fasts.

Once he was having a discussion with the Executives of Isfahan Government. In the meanwhile there was noon prayer call. No sooner he heard it, he stopped and said to the people, present there, "If I am informed right now that there is an important call

for me would you let me stop my speech for some time and resume it after attending the call"? They replied unanimously, "Of course, you are free to do so". Then he said, "Right now an important message has come from God which you must have heard too; so, first we should perform our divine duty". All of them stood up and prepared to say prayers.[1]

رِجَالٌ لَا تُلْهِيهِمْ تِجَارَةٌ وَ لَا بَيْعٌ عَنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَ إِقَامِ الصَّلَاةِ وَ إِيتَاءِ الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ وَ الْأَبْصَارُ

Men neither trading nor bargaining distracts them from the remembrance of Allah, and the maintenance of prayer and the giving of zakat. They are fearful of a day wherein the heart and the sight will be transformed.[2]

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[1]Secret of Eternity *(Ramz Jawedangi)*, Page-86
[2] Holy Quran, Surah-24, Verse-37